

By Ethan Cole

<http://www.christianpost.com/article/20100211/iranian-gov-t-marks-anniversary-amid-criticism-of-religious-abuse/>

On the eve of the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom** released a statement saying it condemns the Iranian government's harassment of its citizens because of their religious adherence.

"Sadly, the Iranian government has been repressing its citizens on the basis of religious identity for years, but in recent months it has been increasingly manipulating the reach of its religious laws to silence, and in some cases put to death, Shia Muslims simply for exercising their internationally protected rights of freedom of expression and freedom of thought, conscience, religion, or belief," said Leonard Leo, chair of USCIRF, on Wednesday.